

Marijuana Policy Panel

Public Health and Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 25, 2004 - City Hall, Room 370 - 5:35-7:12 p.m.

Present: Members - *Cunningham, Holden, Mochizuki, Nyrop, Stark*
Staff - *Lehocka-Howell*
Guest: *Lieutenant William Edwards*

Scope of Sub-Committee

- School surveys (Seattle school district, national reports)
- DUI
- ER
- Number of arrests, prosecutions, incarcerations

Public Health

- School surveys
 - ◆ To see the use and attitude about marijuana use by school children
 - ◆ Comes out every 2 years
 - ◆ Qualitative in nature, hard to measure
- DUI
 - ◆ Seattle numbers before and after initiative
 - ◆ Seattle compared to the rest of WA
- Number of treatment admissions
- ER
- Drug Abuse Warning Network (DAWN)
- Dependency
- Cost of treatment –going up or down
- Number of overdose
- Problem with the lack of access to any data on non-addicted users

Public Safety

- Number of arrests
- Number of prosecutions
- Number of incarcerations
- Court System
- Prosecutors
- Non-public disorder – Qualitative

Potential other data to compare

- Track changes over time
- Compare Seattle
 - ◆ Locally (e.g. to Bellevue)
 - ◆ Nationally (equal sized cities)
- Monitoring the future national survey –may not be possible within one year
- Seattle pre and post initiative

Public Administration and Fiscal Impacts

These two sections were referred back to the steering committee with the potential for a creation of a new sub-committee.

- Process
- Money
 - ◆ Labor
 - ◆ Time

Public comment

1) The intent of the initiative was to see if Seattle followed the national trends of increasing marijuana arrests. The initiative was to stop the increase by making marijuana arrests lowest in priority.

2) Q. A concern was voiced over police recording of marijuana possession lesser than 40g. Is it true that an incident report would be filed rather than a criminal citation? If the marijuana possession is not written on the back of the incident report, how is it being tracked as marijuana related incident?

A. The information would be recorded on the incident report. At the top of the form is a place to describe the incident.

Next Steps

Guest invited to next meeting:

Stark will try to bring following data:

- Treatment numbers
- School survey
 - ◆ Seattle
 - ◆ WA
 - ◆ Federal
- National drug use maps
- Traffic Commission numbers
 - ◆ Seattle
 - ◆ King County
 - ◆ WA

Next meeting

Monday, November 22, 2004, from 5:30-7 p.m., in City Hall, Room 370